

**State of Maryland Commission on Civil Rights
Commission Meeting
January 14, 2014 – 10am
MINUTES**

Commissioners Present: Shawn M. Wright, Esq., Chair; Robert L. Baum, Esq., Vice Chair; Norman Gelman; Gina McKnight-Smith, Pharma. D., MBA; Gary Norman; Rabbi Binyamin Marwick; Laura Esquivel

Present via conference call: N/A

Management Present: Cleveland Horton, Acting Executive Director; Nicolette Young, Assistant Director; Glendora C. Hughes, General Counsel

Staff Present: S. Spencer Dove, Executive Associate

ITEM	SUMMARY	ACTION
Call to Order	Meeting called to order 10:14am	None
Approval of Minutes	Approval of November minutes; Moved Commissioner Norman; Second: Commissioner Gelman	Passed
Executive Director's Report		
Chairperson's Report	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reviewed Meeting Agenda. 2. Commission for Effective Community Inclusion of Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities – Provided status update. Preliminary report issued. Will be having further conversations with Commission about role of MCCR in the future. 3. Robert Strupp, Executive Director of BNI, wants to meet with MCCR Commissioners. Chair will discuss further with our strategic partner and invite him to February meeting. 4. Website is live. Looks great. Will be working with Commissioner Norman to ensure accessibility. Feedback welcome. 5. Introduced Angela Hart-Edwards, pro bono counsel for the Commissioners. 	None.
Deputy Director's Report	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Intake Supervisor filled. New Investigator hired and started on the team. Two additional 	None.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> investigative positions to be filled by June. 2. Attending MLK Convocation at Loyola University, 7pm. Commissioners are encouraged to join MCCR. 3. “Mandela” movie screening last week. Very positive feedback from staff and community partners in attendance. 4. MCCR’s first Fair Housing Event in April, 2014. 5. Winterfest/Staff Appreciation in December. It was a great time. Thank you from staff for Commissioner support. 6. Meeting scheduled with CASA de Maryland and the US Army; had a meeting with CAIR-Maryland. 7. Reviewed Deputy Director’s report (case processing data). 	
Assistant Director’s Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Did receive Governor’s allowance in December. No cuts to positions; did increase agency turnover from 3% to 6% (equivalent of two positions) must remain open. Hoping that the FY2016 budget will reduce turnover back to 3%. 2. Reviewed Assistant Director’s fiscal report. 	None.
General Counsel’s Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reviewed activities report and memorandum. Due to privilege, more discussion needs to take place in Executive Session. 2. HB37: been trying to contact sponsor to discuss bill. Reviewed bill. 3. HBs 73 & 80: reviewed bills overturning the <i>Solesky</i> ruling. Explained the linkage to fair 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. HB37: discussion and adoption of a position tabled pending General Counsel’s conversation with bill sponsor and ability to draft amendment. 2. HB73 & HB80: motion for no position; seconded; passed by

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	housing matters, which is under MCCR domain.	unanimous consent.
Moved into Executive Session at 11:52 a.m.		
Old Business	Executive Session.	None.
New Business	Executive Session.	None.
Adjournment	12:30 pm	